

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masahiro ISHII

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: March 15, 2004

Docket No.: 119091

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of non-English language reference No. 3 is discussed in the present specification.
- ☒ 3. The present application was filed or entered the U.S. National Stage of the PCT after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the June 11, 2003, Notice waiving the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- ☒ 4. English-language Abstracts of non-English language reference Nos. 3-5 are attached hereto.

- ☒ 5. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publication has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 3-5.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Thomas J. Pardini  
Registration No. 30,411

JAO:TJP/mxm

Date: March 15, 2004

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE  
AUTHORIZATION**

Please grant any extension  
necessary for entry;  
Charge any fee due to our  
Deposit Account No. 15-0461

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 119091		APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Patent Application	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT Masahiro ISHII			
				FILING DATE March 15, 2004			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	1	6,101,350	8/8/2000	SUZUKI et al.			
	2	US 2001/0019418 A1	9/6/2001	KATAOKA et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	3	JP A 2001-72602 w/ Abst & Trans	3/12/2002	Japan			
	4	JP A 2001-249517 w/ Abst & Trans (corresponds to US 2001/00191418 B1)	9/14/2001	Japan			
	5	JP A 2001-166555 w/ Abst & Trans	6/22/2001	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: March 15, 2004